

File #

The Bay Players presents...

ACCOMPLI

DIRECTED BY PETER KATES

JULY 28, 29, AUGUST 4, 5 AT 8PM & 1

ADMISSION \$12 • SENIORS \$10 • RESERVATIONS 582-1898 • T

*****CAR-RT-SORT**CR02

208053 1/ 1/96

DUX FREE LIBRARY

147 ST GEORGE ST

DUXBURY MA 02332

Duxbury*"Duxbury's Hometown Newspaper
for 45 Years"***Clipper**

Vol. XLV No. 10

Wednesday, July 19, 1995

Duxbury, MA 02332

Price 75¢

Alden Library Project Launched with \$2.1 Million State Grant

If all goes well, Duxbury will have a new library by Christmas of 1996 thanks to last week's \$2.1 million state grant award and the tenacity of the library's steering committee.

"We're hitting the ground running," said an exuberant Debbie Bornheimer, chairman of the library building committee.

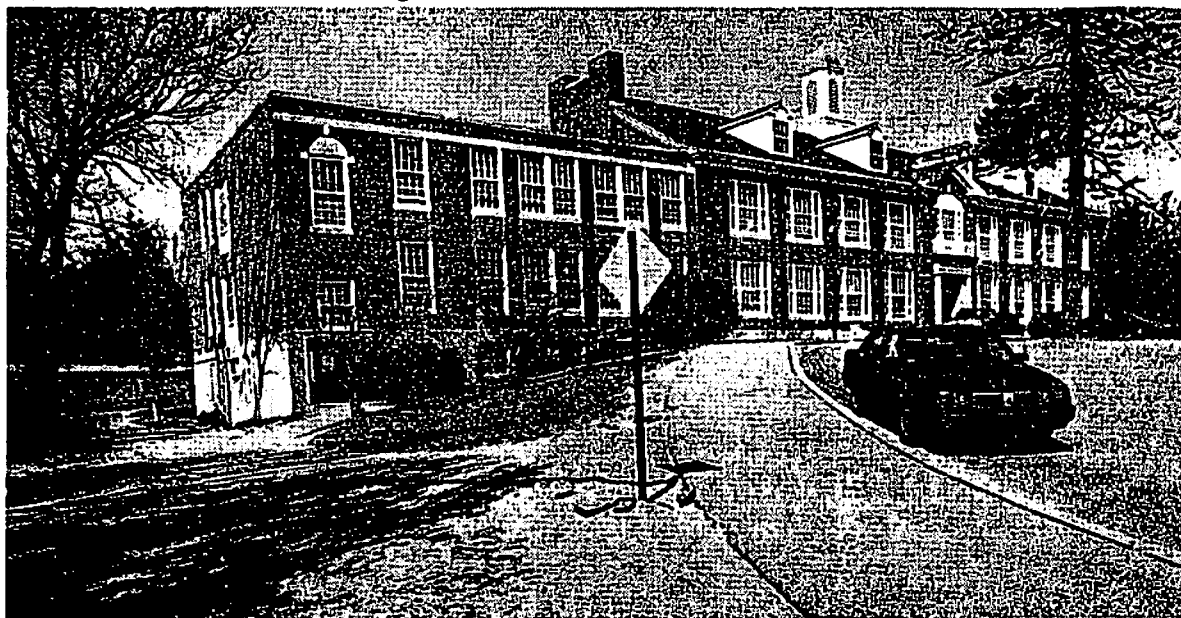
"We're delighted and relieved and can't wait to see the construction project start. The next step will be negotiating the architect's contract. After construction documents are completed the goal is to go to bid before the end of 1995 and within a year complete construction and open the library by Christmas 1996."

Bornheimer said it is extremely important to keep the project on track.

To Page 2

Duxbury Clipper, Wednesday, July 19, 1995

ALDEN LIBRARY From Page 1



The new home of the Duxbury Free Library.

Photo by Fran Nichols

The architectural firm Galliher, Byer and Baier, Inc. of Simsbury, Ct. is expected to take about 3 to 4 months to prepare the construction documents. This is the same firm that recently designed the new Weston Library, which has received rave reviews for a design which is both attractive and functional.

Last Thursday night, an excited group of library supporters and town officials gathered at the Great China Restaurant in Duxbury to celebrate the grant award.

"It's a great day for the town," said Selectmen Chairman Friend Weiler. "It's one thing to get a new library, it's even better to get it for half price."

Weiler referred to the fact that the town will have to borrow only \$3 million of the projected \$6.3 million cost of the conversion project. The state grant plus a \$200,000 federal grant the town received last year, plus \$1 million in private fundraising efforts will pay for the rest.

According to Rodger Smith, chairman of the capital campaign, pledges totalling \$200,000 already have been received. Several prospective contributors were just awaiting word of the grant before committing funds.

The library will be housed in the former upper Alden School, which was constructed in 1927 as Duxbury High School and later used as an elementary school before closing 3 years ago.

It will become the so-called "jewel in the crown" completing a school campus and overlooking municipal buildings including 2 schools, playground and athletic fields and the town's Percy Walker swimming pool.

The new library will provide triple the current library's 12,000 square feet of floor space with area for a multi-service facility complete with public meeting

rooms and state of the art computer facilities.

Town Manager Rocco Longo, who will oversee the conversion project, said he plans to form an ad hoc committee to explore future uses for the existing Duxbury Free Library building on St. George St.

Possible uses proposed for the library include a permanent home for the council on aging, a teen center or a means of relieving overcrowded conditions at town hall.

Jane Bradley, chairman of the board of library trustees in reacting to the grant award said, "We're delighted that we'll be able to go forward with the project after all the work that has gone into the design. There are still a lot of challenges ahead of us but it's great to have the confidence of the state and federal government behind the project."

Bradley said the board of library commissioners was profuse in praise of the project design, ranking it number one in its category.

"That was very gratifying because each project application was reviewed by an independent team and to stand up under independent scrutiny and come out on top is terrific."

"I'm excited about getting the library to be a first class facility. There's a lot we can do to enhance library services. We can't wait to get started."